

# TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

FINDING A SOLUTION TO TODAY'S TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

*Frederick County, MD*



Entrance to TransIT offices in Frederick, MD

## Mt. St. Mary's University/Emmitsburg Bicycle and Pedestrian Connector Project:

The previous Board of County Commissioners approved a Memorandum of Understanding contributing \$140,000 to a trail between the University and Emmitsburg. The need for the trail is well established as there have been two pedestrian fatalities. Field walks with the State Highway Administration have also taken place. Future development will be reported to TSAC. For questions regarding the Project, contact Ron Burns at [rburns@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:rburns@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

# TransIT

## BECOME A TRANSPORTATION ADVOCATE IN FREDERICK COUNTY!

Established in 1987, the Transportation Services Advisory Council (TSAC) provides direct advice, assistance and support to TransIT Services of Frederick County and County Commissioners on regional transportation issues. TSAC is comprised of three community agency representatives, three private business sector representatives, five at-large members and ex-officio members. All meetings are open to the public.

The mission of the TSAC is to identify transportation trends and issues, to increase public awareness of transportation alternatives and to influence public policy by advising Frederick County elected officials and decision-makers on the development of a comprehensive and coordinated regional transportation network.

The general goals of TSAC are to *increase public awareness* of TransIT Services and specific transit-related projects among the general public and in the media, to *educate* public officials regarding the viability and desirability of transit as one element of a multi-modal solution to Frederick County's transportation needs and to *be a primary resource* for public officials and transit customers.

TSAC was instrumental in creating the widely used transit-friendly design guidelines, the re-design of the downtown MARC station and advises MTA during the Transportation Development Plan which occurs every five years. TSAC is relevant to the public, City and County Officials, Businesses and Advocacy Groups. Become an advocate by attending bi-monthly meetings.

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS WELCOME

### TSAC MEETINGS

Bi-Monthly at 8:00am | held at TransIT Offices  
1040 Rocky Springs Rd. | Frederick, MD 21702

301-600-2065 | [TransIT@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:TransIT@FrederickCountyMD.gov)  
[www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/TransIT](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/TransIT)



## FREDERICK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES LETTER

The Transportation Priorities Review is conducted annually to, for the most part, address the State primary and secondary highway project priorities as well as a review of other transportation needs and priorities. A focus of the priorities is to provide guidance for the County's preparation of the FY 2016 to FY 2021 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and to the Maryland Department of Transportation's preparation of next year's draft Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), which is released in the fall.

The priorities review provides a multi-modal approach to identifying transportation needs and priorities, including:

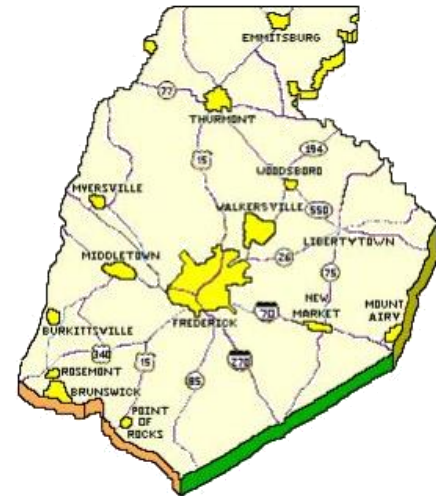
- State primary and secondary highway projects
- Bus, rail and bicycle/pedestrian projects
- The Frederick Municipal Airport

The Transportation Priorities Review is formally presented for review to the County Planning Commission, Transportation Services Advisory Council (TSAC), and the County Council. Comments and recommendations from these groups and the municipalities in Frederick County will be forwarded to the County Executive and the Maryland State Delegation for their consideration and final approval. All of the above mentioned presentations are open to the public. County staff also coordinates with individual MDOT agencies as appropriate to review opportunities for consistency in project priorities. The priority listing for State projects are then transmitted to the Maryland Department of Transportation in early April.

The Annual Transportation Priorities Review – 2015 details:

County Transportation Funding  
Public-Private Partnerships  
State Highway Priorities  
Local Transit  
Regional Transit  
Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities  
State Community Safety and Enhancement Projects  
Frederick Municipal Airport

Full Document: <http://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/279393>



### FY2016 TOP TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES:

The following are the top three projects that have been allocated county funding (general funds) or are pending:

**Final Design Funding – MD 180: Solarex Court to Butterfly Lane Relocated** This cost effective improvement will widen MD 180 over US 340/15, eliminating one of the most congested choke points in the City and County. This improvement will facilitate economic development, specifically the \$200 million expansion of the Astra Zeneca-MedImmune facility.

**Construction Funding- US 15: I-70 to MD 26** This cost effective improvement will eliminate the only segment within the US 15/I-270 Multimodal Study that is over capacity in both directions in both peaks, improving access to jobs in the region, including the County's top employer- Fort Detrick.

**Project Planning Funding- MD 194: MD 26 to Devilbiss Bridge Road** This project proposes the widening from a 2-lane up to a 4-lane divided roadway, addressing both capacity and safety issues. Right-of-way has essentially be acquired for the majority of the project.

Find the full list of projects at: <http://frederickcountymd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/279393>

**THE ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES REVIEW LETTER DETAILS STATE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PROJECTS; BUS, RAIL AND BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS; AND THE FREDERICK MUNICIPAL AIRPORT. CONTACT RON BURNS WITH QUESTIONS AT [rburns@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:rburns@frederickcountymd.gov)**

*“TransIT is poised on the brink of a new era.” – Nancy Norris, TransIT Director*





### Complete Streets Policy & Bus Stops on "Three Lane Roads"

The Complete Streets initiative was presented to the City Mayor and Alderman. After the changes requested by the Mayor and Alderman are completed the final policy can be presented (scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup>).

"Four lane, undivided roads are the most unsafe roads in existence," stated Ron Burns with the County's Planning office. A Complete Streets type solution suggested in the US 40 study is to resurface/restripe the road into three lanes with a center turn lane. The right lane would be a bus and right turn only lane. Bus stops would be after intersections to reduce the chance of motorists attempting to move around the bus to turn right. Bike lanes are included in the solution.

For more information on the Complete Streets Policy, contact Tim Davis at: [TDavis@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:TDavis@FrederickCountyMD.gov).

### MARC THIRD RAIL: INCREASED SERVICE?

#### A PRESENTATION BY BEN ROSS ON BEHALF OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY AREA COMMITTEE FOR TRANSPORTATION



Ben Ross, representative from Montgomery County Area Committee on Transportation, reported that in 2008 MARC established its growth and investment program (MGIP). The plan totaled four billion dollars for the entire system. A few improvements from this plan have been implemented on the Brunswick Line, mostly in regards to the station and parking.

MARC is now redeveloping the plan and draft reports show Brunswick Line improvements have been pushed into an undefined category to be reviewed after 2030. Protests from the Brunswick Line Advisory Committee have caused MARC to again review its MGIP. Internal County priority letters, stated Ross, are the real driver of decisions for the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Ross notes that the type of project the Brunswick line would benefit both Montgomery County and Frederick County is capital investment to install a new platform at the Point of Rocks MARC station. MARC acquiring a stretch of property between the towns of Boyds and Dickerson that could allow the potential for additional tracks was another suggestion; currently CSX has the right-of-way in this area.

The Montgomery County committee has begun distributing flyers at nearby MARC stations and requests support from Frederick County. The Point of Rocks Platform project is currently listed in Frederick County's priority letter but Ross suggests adding the verbiage, "As a first step toward bi-directional service..."

A proposed follow-up meeting was arranged by TSAC to include: TransIT Services of Frederick County, The Frederick Area Committee for Transportation, and CSX to further discuss the project, the MGIP and the proposed platform at Point of Rocks.

**COMPLETE STREETS ARE FOR EVERYONE. THEY ARE DESIGNED AND OPERATED TO ENABLE SAFE ACCESS FOR ALL USERS, INCLUDING PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, MOTORISTS AND TRANSIT USERS OF ALL AGES AND ABILITIES. —SMARTGROWTHAMERICA.ORG**

*TransIT provided nearly 840,000 trips and over 84,000 hours of service in Fiscal Year 2014.*



# TRANSPORTATION SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

## DO YOU ATTEND NAC MEETINGS?

The Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) is a forum for residents to become involved in identifying and recommending positive changes to improve their neighborhoods by enhancing communications with elected officials. It is the goal of the elected officials to work with residents to understand and address the issues that impact the quality of life in neighborhoods.

The NAC initiative was developed in response to community input provided during the 2002 series of community forums.

### More Information

To obtain additional information about the NAC or to suggest improvements to the plan or the approved NAC map, please contact Michele Bowman via phone (301) 600-2091 or via email at [mbowman@frederickpolice.org](mailto:mbowman@frederickpolice.org)



TransIT Services of Frederick County was the 2013 Winner: Best Fixed Route System and Best Paratransit Driver, The Transportation Association of MD

### YOUR COMPANY NAME

555 Street Address, Suite 555  
City, STATE 55555

### SHIPPING ADDRESS

Attn: Addressee  
555 Street Address, Suite 555  
City, STATE 55555

*“By providing transportation to employment, education, training, shopping and other services, TransIT is both improving and serving Frederick County’s growing economy.”*

*- Ric Adams, Former President & CEO, Frederick County Chamber of Commerce*